THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Investment of VSNL capital in Tata Teleservices

*10. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tata Group has purchased controlling share of VSNL in the process of disinvestment;

(b) if so, the amount paid by Tata to Government and the details of the valuation of VSNL;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the VSNL Board decided to invest Rs. 1200 crores in Tata Teleservices, a Tata Group Company; and

(d) whether such an investment decision is in keeping with a major stated objective of disinvestment to substitute public investment with private investment?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) Government sold 25% of the equity of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) to M/s. Panatone Finvest Ltd. (Tata Group) for Rs. 1439.25 crores which works out to Rs. 202 per share. The reserve price fixed by the Government for 26% of the equity was Rs. 1218.375 crores, which works out to Rs. 171 per share.

(c) A Sub-Committee of Directors of the VSNL Board, including a Government nominee Director, has been constituted by VSNL to study matters concerning inter-corporate investment upto the level of Rs. 1200 crores in the share capital of an Indian company holding Basic Service Operator (BSO) licences, which *inter alia* includes issues of valuation price etc.

(d) Investment decisions by a company, post-disinvestment, would be governed by the provisions of Company Law and those of the Shareholders Share Purchase Agreements. Investment which conforms to these regulations and which enhances the enterprise value of the subject company is in consonance with the spirit and objective of disinvestment. The VSNL Agreements have

sufficient safeguards to ensure this as also to protect other interests of the company and the Government.

Reports of Disinvestment Commission

*11. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI : Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the reports given by the Disinvestment Commission so far;

(b) the main recommendations of the Commission; and

(c) the details of the recommendations accepted by Government keeping in view the interest of workers and employees of the public sector undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) The Disinvestment Commission has so far given 13 reports in which it has made recommendations in respect of 58 PSEs (including revised recommendations in case of 4 PSEs) under the five broad categories namely (a) Involving change in ownership management by strategic sale in 31 PSEs and Trade Sale in 8 PSEs; (b) Involving no change in ownership/management by offer of sale of share in 5 PSEs; (c) No change *i.e.*, deferment of disinvestments in 8 PSEs; (d) Closure/sale of assets in 4 PSEs; and (e) Employee buyout/strategic sale in 2 PSEs.

(c) Annexure is enclosed indicating the details of main recommendations of the Commission and the actions taken on them by Government so far [*See* Appendix 196 Annexure No.1]. As regards protection of employees' interest, in all cases of strategic sale involving transfer of management, suitable provisions are made in the transaction documents.

New male contraceptive

*12. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO :

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :